

# Town of Dudley

## Board of Selectmen

### Finance, Appropriation and Advisory Committee

Highway Commissioners

Cemetery Commissioners

May 18, 2020 @ 6:30pm

Dudley Municipal Complex

71 West Main Street

Dudley, MA 01571

**Approved 6/1/2020**

**Some matters have been taken out of agenda order but were typed up in agenda order for ease of locating information when necessary.**

#### **1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance:**

Steven Sullivan called the remote meeting to order at 6:33pm. In remote attendance were John Marsi, Paul Joseph (arrived at 6:51pm), Jason Johnson and Kerry Cyganiewicz. Also in attendance remotely were Michael Mayotte, Ann Gaudreau and Mark Landry from the FAA. Included in this meeting were Chief Dean Kochanowski, Chief Steve Wojnar, Richard Carmignani, Treasurer/Collector, Vincent Poletta, Highway Superintendent and Erin Pratt, Pratt Trucking. Also in attendance was Jonathan Ruda, Town Administrator and Michelle Jervis, Administrative Secretary.

Steven Sullivan stated that per Governor Baker all meetings will have to read a disclaimer at the beginning of each meeting and each vote will be voted by roll call vote.

*Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, this meeting of the Dudley Board of Selectmen will be conducted in total or in part via remote participation. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the Town's website, at [dudleyma.gov](http://dudleyma.gov). For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch the meeting may do so in the following manner: via Facebook Live and/or posted link at [dudleyma.gov](http://dudleyma.gov) following the meeting. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means.*

A Roll Call Vote is required for all votes taken under this order.

#### **1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance:**

Steven Sullivan asked for a moment of silence for the all the Massachusetts residents and US Citizens that have died due to the COVID-19 virus.

#### **2. Acceptance of Minutes:**

##### **a. Jason Johnson motioned to approve the Minutes of May 11, 2020. John Marsi seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Steven Sullivan, Aye**

**John Marsi, Aye**

**Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye**

**Jason Johnson, Aye**

**3. Public Safety Update on COVID-19:**

- a. **Fire Chief** – Chief Kochanowski stated that there have not been many changes since last week. His ambulance calls have increased and last month's figures were very good. The calls were down in April but collections went up. He thanked his staff and the Town Administrator for all their hard work. He recently received new masks, N95 masks that were distributed to fire, schools and police. This shipment was the best he had received since the State of Emergency. He thanked everyone involved for all their work.
- b. **Police Chief** – Chief Wojnar stated that his officers are still maintaining and taking calls. Domestic abuse calls have gone up substantially along with some larceny and a few break-ins. During this time it is a tough challenge. He officers will be patrolling the beach and parks as well. As far as the courthouse he received information that they will be reopening July 1, 2020. He is hopeful for this date.
- c. **Highway Superintendent** – Vinny Polletta stated that by Thursday of this week four of his workers will be furloughed. His department is trying this week to finish projects and tie up loose ends. With his skeleton crew they will be taking care of the cemeteries and filing potholes. **Jason Johnson motioned to approve the reports of the Fire Chief, Police Chief and Highway Superintendent. John Marsi seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Steven Sullivan, Aye**

**John Marsi, Aye**

**Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye**

**Paul Joseph, Aye**

**Jason Johnson, Aye**

**4. Town Administrator Report:**

Mr. Ruda stated that at this time the budget is in flux. The revenue projections are still 70% or less. Regarding the phase reopening of the State, Governor Baker has implemented it in four (4) phases. We need to respond and come up with a plan for reopening on May 25, 2020. At the end of the week we will have 18 employees furloughed. This was a difficult decision for him and he has several employees doing extra work covering offices. As far as reimbursement for COVID-19 the state will reimburse up to \$1.4 million. The town cannot spend that amount of money on related expenses. We have not received any numbers for local aid or education and reminded everyone that the budget for FY21 will be challenging. **John Marsi motioned to accept the Town Administrator's Report. Kerry Cyganiewicz seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Steven Sullivan, Aye**

**John Marsi, Aye**

**Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye**

**Paul Joseph, Aye**

**Jason Johnson, Aye**

**5. New Business:**

- a. **Recycling Center – Discussion regarding bidder, Pratt Trucking/Little River Recycling– Option #1 and Option #2. Dudley Recycling Center at 7 Indian Road.** – Erin Pratt, President of Pratt Trucking, came before the Board. Mr. Ruda stated that we had two RFP (Request for Proposals) put out March 27, 2020; one for the current model, storage and transport of recycling and non-recycling service (option #1) and the operation and maintenance of the transfer station and

associated solid waste and recycling removal (option#2). We had two bidders, Casella Waste Management and Pratt Trucking. Casella Waste bided on the current model and Pratt bided on our current model and the model Pay As You Throw (PAYT), which is the model used in Webster. Ms. Pratt explained the PAYT has been implemented in Webster for the past 13 years. Conditions in the industry have changed and in 2018 China came up with the National Sword Policy that bans certain plastics, paper and solid waste. This created an increase in recycling prices. Dudley's plan is problematic that there is no incentive to recycle, costs the same as trash. Also users can throw as much as they want for that permit fee; it costs the town money because we are subsidizing them. A good example is that we charge \$185.00 for a senior permit, with no limits on how much they throw. Multi families take advantage of the town as well. Regarding bulk items, her proposal is close to what we have now. The cost for seniors is a great concern to her. Seniors now pay \$185.00 per year for a permit. Under the PAYT a senior could bring (3) 13 gallon bags of trash at \$2.00 each for \$6.00 per week or \$312.00 per year, which is a substantial increase. However if that same household were to increase recycling, they could do (1) 13 gallon bag and 1 (30) gallon bag of recycling for a total of \$3.00 per week or \$156.00 per year. A 16% reduction. She is also willing to expand that cost to veterans and fire responders. She is also offering Earth Day dumpsters that take all the materials away at no cost to the town. The bid was for three years, with no annual increases. Mr. Ruda stated that the biggest risk is the unlimited amount of trash that our permit holders are allowed to throw. That risk is shifted to the town. Paul Joseph stated that civic pride in recycling is important. He likes the model we have now and has spoken to many seniors that understand that their neighbors who have curbside pickup pay a lot more money for trash removal. All must have an interest in recycling and that people should pay more money for the same model. The Town should be smart enough to gather data and make an intelligent decision. Jon Ruda stated that is costs less if you recycle, gives the ability for people to reduce the costs on their own. Ms. Pratt feels that there is a threshold for another option for large families. Might be advantageous for them to use curbside pickup. Regarding setting the permit fee on Option #1, Ms. Pratt stated that she should not be involved with setting those fees, the town should do so. Kerry Cyganiewicz questioned whether Pratt, if awarded the bid, would maintain the building and plow the center. Ms. Pratt stated that her company would not maintain the buildings but would keep the area clean and rodent free, she does not have any plow equipment. Jon Ruda stated that the bottom line is that if we stay with Option #1 we will have to substantially increase the permit fees. Psychologically we can't get past this; the Town is not in the business of waste management. Paul Joseph left the meeting at 8:35pm. Everyone thanked Ms. Pratt for her presentation and answering their questions. Ms. Pratt left the meeting at 8:45pm. A Public Hearing on this matter is scheduled for Thursday, June 4, 2020 @ 6:30pm via Facebook Live.

- b. Year End Transfers – FAA vote – Mark Landry motioned to approve the accumulative amounts from our meeting on May 11, 2020 for Year End Transfers in the amount of \$9,778.30 to offset the Municipal Expense Line Account # 0001-156-5310-02. Ann Gaudreau seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote:**  
**Mark Landry, Aye**  
**Michael Mayotte, Aye**  
**Ann Gaudreau, Aye**

#### **6. Departmental Communication:**

Jason Johnson stated that regarding the recycling center the toughest part for services is paying for the costs, it is difficult and not taken lightly. Residents should get involved by sending in questions and ideas to be part of the process. Kerry Cyganiewicz congratulated the Class of 2020; it is Shepherd Hill Seniors last week. Also he is the incumbent for his seat on the Board of Selectmen and requested everyone to either come out and vote on June 15<sup>th</sup> or mail in an application to have the ballot mailed to you. It is the safest way. Richard Carmignani stated that the budget is in flux, a moving target. It will be very tight for next fiscal year.

**7. Adjournment:**

**John Marsi motioned to adjourn at 8:55pm. Kerry Cyganiewicz seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Steven Sullivan, Aye**

**John Marsi, Aye**

**Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye**

**Jason Johnson, Aye**

**Mark Landry, Aye**

**Michael Mayotte, Aye**

**Ann Gaudreau, Aye**

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Jervis

Administrative Secretary for the Board of Selectmen

Clerk for the FAA

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Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Jervis

Administrative Secretary for the Board of Selectmen

Clerk for the FAA